

intermarrying, became so powerful in the greatest of all points in India, religious views, that a complete Government, from the Talpoors, was most effectually carried on.

The Court was formed of Emirs, or Ameers, (lords); these consisted of eight brothers, who, being Chiefs of the highest blood, held possessions in various parts of the country; the senior, Mir, or Meer, was looked up to as the Rais or head, and was invested with a superior authority, allowed to settle all family scuffles, and had the ruling voice over the whole nation. They were of jealous dispositions, and spite of their mutual recognition of the Rais, were ever exhibiting a spirit of conspiracy against each other, owing to the prosperity, or otherwise, of the respective allotments in yielding revenue. The country was divided into three principal seats, called, Khyrpoore, Meerpoore, and Hyderabad—all being subject to the latter as the Seat of Government. Their army, and principal means of defence, were the Beeloochee race, who were paid by grants of land; in addition to this, a force was hired from the Merab Khan of Kelat.

The revenues derived from the various sources, supported an immense treasury. Prior to 1838, a Treaty had existed between the British and these Ameers, of a friendly nature, establishing a reciprocal commercial intercourse. Another Treaty was commenced in 1836 and ended in 1838, when the rulers of Scinde were induced to permit a